

**Jeff Tobias**

**From:** Les Hall [lhall@boatfix.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 04, 2003 8:09

**To:** Tim Maguire

**Cc:** Jeff Tobias

**Subject:** Comments Re: DA 03-3669

Gentlemen:

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

We are opposed to appointing Maritel as the AIS coordinator. Maritel has not demonstrated any success in their past agreements with the Federal Government. Rather, they have failed in the establishment of new ship to systems, failed to maintain existing ship to shore services, failed in the MMSI number issuance program and are now attempting to gain control over public frequencies in what appears to me to be a last ditch effort to boost revenues at taxpayer expense.

Their web site states:

### **MariTEL Marine Communications**

**After over 30 years of service to mariners across the United States, MariTEL is discontinuing marine voice communications service. Effective June 6, 2003, MariTEL's marine radio network will be closed.**

**MariTEL is in the process of developing a suite of data services for the marine industry.**

**You will be hearing much more about MariTEL's planned new services in the near future.**

**Note:**

**Standard Horizon radio purchasers, the free one year MariTEL service offer has been discontinued.**

This "suite of data services" for the marine industry has never materialized. They failed to honor their agreement with Standard Horizon. Personally, I have yet to see positive action on the part of Maritel and do not believe that this history of failure in the marine industry under current and immediate past management is a sound basis for the awarding of new contracts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Les Hall

Sea Tow Services International representative to the GMDSS task force.

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